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TO: U.S. Patent & Trademark Office  
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FROM: Edward A. Kmetz (Reg. No.: 42,746)

RE: U.S. Application No. 09/977,318  
Attn: Examiner C. Larose  
Group Art Unit 2627  
Atty. Docket No. 03500.015887

FAX NO.: (571) 273-8300

DATE: March 9, 2006

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## MESSAGE

Transmitted herewith is an Response To Restriction Requirement in  
response to the Office Action dated February 10, 2006.I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted  
to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-  
1450 on

March 9, 2006

(Date of Transmission)

Edward A. Kmetz (Reg. No. 42,746)

(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

*Edward A. Kmetz*  
Signature

March 9, 2006

Date of Signature

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03500.015887.

PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
YASUO FUKUDA )  
Application No.: 09/977,318 )  
Filed: October 16, 2001 )  
For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, )  
APPARATUS THEREFOR AND )  
STORING MEDIUM )

Examiner: C. Larose  
Group Art Unit: 2623  
March 9, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated February 10, 2006,

Applicant hereby elects, without traversal, to prosecute the Group I claims, namely Claims

1 to 3, 19 to 21, 36 and 38.

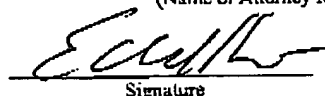
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March 9, 2006

(Date of Transmission)

Edward A. Kmetz (Reg. No.: 42,746)

(Name of Attorney for Applicant)



Signature

March 9, 2006

Date of Signature

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward A. Kmett  
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Registration No.: 42,746

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